

Drug Policy Advisory Council Meeting

February 12, 2009

Minutes

Voting Council Members Present: Chairman Gary Kendell, Jeanette Bucklew, Cyndy Erickson, Kevin Frampton, Judge Robert Mahan, Paul Stageberg, Margaret Wright for Mary Nelson (by phone), Kathy Stone, Eric Snyder, David Lorenzen, John Garringer, Jane Larkin, Brian Vos (by phone) and Christine Wilson.

Non-Voting Members Present: Stephan Arndt.

Guest: Syeta Glanton, Governor's Office.

Staff: Dale Woolery, Dennis Wiggins, Becky Swift, Terry Graham, Susie Sher and Becky Bell.

Welcome and introductions

Chairman Kendell called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Board members and guests introduced themselves.

The minutes of the November 13, 2008 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Paul Stageberg and seconded by Chris Wilson. The Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

2008 Meth Summit Report

Chairman Kendell reported that a team from Iowa attended the Meth Summit. He will complete a draft action plan based on the focus areas at the summit. He will incorporate what Iowa is doing, new things that could be done and how to allocate resources that Iowa already has, and then contact the team for a meeting.

Funding Update

Chairman Kendell reported that State funding for ODCP will most likely be cut, but he is hopeful that Federal funding will come through. He stated that he had not seen the final copy of the Stimulus Bill but has heard there is funding available for Byrne-JAG.

Discussion was held on the Adam Walsh Act bill that was introduced by the Department of Public Safety.

Kathy Stone reported that the Department of Public Health's budget cuts have not affected treatment services, but will have an impact on prevention services.

Chairman Kendell reported that ODCP has completed the discretionary funding requests to the federal government. Four previously funded requests and two new ones were submitted.

Legislative Updates

Chairman Kendell reported on the pseudoephedrine electronic tracking bill. A version of the bill with language shifting the focus to a pure monitoring system for law enforcement was introduced and seems to be making headway.

The bill to schedule Salvia divinorum as controlled substance passed out of the House subcommittee.

Chairman Kendell filed a bill regarding criminal penalties for powdered quantities of crack and cocaine.

Council members would like to see the parity bill pushed this session.

David Lorenzen reported that the Iowa Association of Chiefs of Police and Peace Officers filed a bill on public intoxication by substances other than alcohol but is not sure if any action has been taken on it.

Council members received a handout developed by Becky Swift containing information on several bills.

Prison Population Forecast

Council members received a copy of the “Highlights from Prison Population Forecast” report. Paul Stageberg stated that the final report was released on November 23, 2008. He reported on a few highlights of the forecast. CJJP predicts a drop in the incarcerated population through FY10, as new commitments dropped to their lowest level since FY97. The long-term projection shows a smaller prison population in ten years than any recent previous forecast. Current forecasts suggested a population of 8,900 by the end of FY2018, compared to the FY07 forecast, which suggested 9,730 at the conclusion of FY2017.

For the fourth year in a row, there was a drop in commitments resulting from drug charges as the most serious charge. Drug courts and other community-based drug treatment and diversion programs may be effective in further reducing admissions of drug offenders to prison. Restricting access to pseudoephedrine in cold medicines has had a dramatic impact on meth-related prison commitments.

Electronic Grants Management System Update

Dennis Wiggins reported on an electronic grants management system that is being developed in conjunction with the Department of Management and several other interested agencies. Following an RFP process, a robust, off-the-shelf grants management tool was chosen. Currently there are three state agencies (ODCP, Economic Development and Emergency Management) that are ready to rollout pilot programs utilizing the grants management system. ODCP will use the program for its Byrne-JAG grants.

In the future, the Department of Management will be asking all agencies to post available grants to the system so anyone looking for funding will have one-stop shopping.

Mr. Wiggins said that the grants management system will be expanded to other agencies in the next 6-8 months. He also stated interested agencies could contact Kathy Mabie of the Department of Management for more information.

Agency/Association Updates

Paul Stageberg reported that CJJP will be able to weather the budget storm.

Kathy Stone reported working with the Department of Human Services and the Child Health welfare system on a co-occurring mental health and substance abuse recovery oriented care initiative.

A workgroup that the Dept. of Public Health will be involved with is reviewing default acute crisis mental health commitments in hospital emergency rooms. The goal of this group is to make mental health services available in the community so that people do not end up in the emergency room. Ms. Stone stated that the workgroup will be asking for workgroup representatives from public safety, law enforcement and corrections.

Stephan Arndt reported that the budget for the Consortium.

Dave Lorenzen said that one of the concerns of the ICOP&PO Association is budgets cuts and a proposed study of the revitalization of the Law Enforcement Academy. Their concern is that cutting back training at that facility will be problematic for law enforcement.

Jeanette Bucklew reported that the Department of Corrections rolled out a new custody classification in mid-January. It is a system that has been developed and validated as part of the corrections master study plan. The previous classification plan had been in place for 25 years and one tool served the purpose for everything and everyone. Now the Department of Corrections has an initial classification tool, reclassification tool, male tool and female tool all validated on the behavior of offenders during their stay in the system. The result of this is that the Department of Corrections now has a significantly increased minimum custody offender population. The new system contains over-rides so changes can be made individually to offenders.

Jeanette reported on the substance abuse treatment program electronic clinical record that is being implemented by IDPH. Two institutions have piloted this training and all of the rest of them will be trained. This will allow the sharing of clinical treatment records and will allow prison treatment population into Public Health's databases.

Jeanette announced that she will be retiring in March. The Council congratulated her.

Chris Wilson stated that the Continuum of Care workgroup has talked a lot about prevention and training and lack of funds. The Midwest Counterdrug Training Center will be continuing to provide the prevention specialist training.

Jane Larkin reported that February 16 is the Underage Drinking Day on the Hill. Substance Abuse Coalitions throughout the State and high school students will be going to the Capitol to speak with Legislators. A press conference is scheduled from 11:00-11:30 a.m. that day. Coalitions will be educating legislators on the issues of social host as well as refusal to take a PBT.

Cyndy Erickson reported that the Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development has proposed legislation that will work around youth development and best practices for youth programs and one of the results is that indicators have safe and supportive communities, schools and families. This group is looking for a formal acceptance and structure and seems to be moving well. It passed the House.

The Iowa Core Curriculum, which will help schools know better what kids need to learn on their educational journey, passed the state board yesterday. Ms. Erickson is involved in the area of

learning that supports safe, supportive and caring schools. This is an area that will be working with in detail with schools, but will also be doing a self-study in relationship to the Iowa Core Curriculum as part of that learning support.

Dale asked when the Iowa Youth Survey data will be available for public consumption. Stephan Arndt replied that the first report is due in March. He will email the information to Becky Swift and she will forward it on to the Council members.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Becky Bell